

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

VOLUME IV, NO. 2

DALLAS, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1937

Office: 201 East Tenth St., Phone 6-6888

Sunday Services In Dallas



Rev. Bill Rice of Gainesville, Texas, Will Preach at the Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle, Dallas, Sunday Night

Rev. John R. Rice will return to Dallas for the Sunday morning services, radio at 7:30, Sunday School 9:45, and preaching service at 11. At 8 P.M. Rev. Bill Rice of Gainesville will preach on "The Road to Heaven, Where One May Find It, and How Good One Must Be To Travel This Road."

"Brother Bill" has done a fine work in Gainesville these three years with many souls saved. His church has steadily grown in attendance, interest and financial as well as spiritual strength. We congratulate him on the birth of a beautiful baby daughter two weeks ago. Our people love him and want to hear his fresh, warm, evangelistic message Sunday night at 8 P.M.

HAPPY FELLOWSHIP IN FORT WORTH LAST SUNDAY

A long distance telephone call some time ago from Pastor Lloyd Adams of the North Side Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle, Ft. Worth, invited the editor to speak at a fellowship meeting of eight independent fundamental Baptist churches in Fort Worth last Sunday afternoon. Each third Sunday afternoon of the month this group of churches meet for fellowship. It was a great joy to be with them. Twenty-two preachers were present. After good singing and testimonies and reports by ministers present, they turned the service over to this writer with unlimited time and with the finest attention. We spoke on Christian fellowship and brotherly love, and then what a happy time of hand-shaking and greeting! They took an offering for the speaker which was wholly unexpected and baptized some new converts before leaving.

The choir was full with fifty or sixty singers and the building was packed. I am sorry I do not have the names of all the ministers present, but recall Pastor Lloyd Adams of the North Side Fundamental Baptist, Pastor Birt Kimball of Lakeside Drive Baptist, Pastor John Duckett of Euless

"A Physical Hell of Literal Fire, Worms"

"... Having Two Hands Go Into The Fire That Never Shall Be Quenched: Where Their Worm Dieth Not, And The Fire Is Not Quenched" — Mark 9:43, 44

Sunday Night Sermon of Pastor John R. Rice at Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle, Dallas, July 18

The Bible says a good deal about Hell, and it uses the plain word *Hell*. A lot of people are insulted if a preacher uses the word *Hell* if he doesn't apologize for it. They say, "I believe that God is a God of love." I do, too, but when you take what the Lord Jesus Christ said, you find that He said more than anybody else in the Bible about Hell and the terrible nature of Hell, so I am going to speak to you about Hell, a literal Hell in the heart of the earth, a physical Hell of literal worms and decaying human bodies.

Let us pray.
Our Father, I pray that tonight somebody here will be convicted of his sins and saved and kept from Hell by this message. I pray that every Christian may see the

awfulness of sin and how hateful sin is to Thee. O God, and that people will be alarmed and concerned and go and tell their loved ones and pray and fast until they are saved and take no rest until the loved ones are rescued from the eternal condemnation that hangs over the lost. Lord, here are many Scriptures, help me to interpret them. Do Thou speak to the hearts of the people and bring conviction and blessing and may hearts be turned to God. Now save tonight. You can, dear Lord. We believe. Come and help us to trust you about it, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

I turn to Mark the ninth chapter and read to you about six verses. In the ninth chapter of Mark I begin with verse forty-three:

"43. And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

"44. Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

"45. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt (or crippled) into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

"46. Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

"47. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

"48. Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

"49. For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt."

I have read to you in Mark the ninth chapter, and I want you to notice one verse that is repeated three times: verses forty-four, forty-six, and forty-eight are exactly the same, I believe: "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Here is a horrible thing in the Word of God. I say it is horrible, but it is true, nevertheless, and it ought to be preached and ought to be believed. If there is no Hell there is no Heaven, and I beg you tonight to take seriously the Word of God. It does not matter what I say, but it matters what God says on this matter of Hell.

In the first place, Hell is a certainty. It is as much a certainty for the unsaved as Heaven is for saved people after death. There is something beyond death if there is any immortality for the soul, a happy immortality for the saved, and an awful immortality of suffering for the lost. The Bible speaks of the resurrection to everlasting life and the resurrection to everlasting condemnation. Then Jesus Himself tells about the man who died and in Hell he lifted up his eyes being in torment. The Bible says so much about Hell that either a

man must believe in Hell or he is a pagan. A man cannot be a Christian as far as doctrine is concerned unless he believes in Hell. If there is no Hell, there is no Bible that is the Word of God, for the Bible teaches Hell. And that is not all. If there is not a literal Hell of torment like Jesus said, then Jesus cannot be trusted, and if Jesus cannot be trusted, then He is not the Son of God. If there is no Hell then there is no Saviour! And that isn't all. If there is no Hell and no Bible and no Saviour, of course we have no hope of Heaven. If we can't believe the Bible about Hell, we can't believe the Bible about Heaven or anything else! Brother, the whole Christian religion will stand or fall, it must stand or fall on Hell. If there is not a literal Hell like the Bible described, if there is no Hell, then we might as well throw away our Bibles and give up any hope of meeting our loved ones again and of seeing God in peace. If there is no Hell, there is no truth in the Bible, no certainty to the Christian religion and we don't know there is a God even when we throw away the fact of Hell.

Hell For Physical Bodies

But there is a Hell, a real Hell, a physical place. In Luke the 16th chapter, "The rich man in Hell lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame."

Abraham said, "No, I am not going to do it. I know your tongue is hot, but I am not going to have Lazarus going down there and dip his finger and cool your tongue."

"Then send him to my father's house for I have five brothers and I don't want them to come into this place of torment."

Get those words. They are exactly from the Scripture in the sixteenth chapter of Luke. "Lest they also come into this place of torment." It is a literal, physical

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Be Sure To Read

The sermon in this issue on "A Physical Hell of Literal Fire and Worms," is stenographically reported. The Lord used it to create a profound effect on the audience last Sunday night. We believe it proves beyond any doubt a literal, physical Hell in the heart of the earth where there will be a literal lake of fire burning with literal brimstone where souls go now and where eventually both soul and body of all the unsaved will be cast into Hell with literal hands, literal feet, literal eyes, literal tongue to be gnawed by literal worms that never die! Be sure that unsaved people read it. It will be continued next week.

Help Us Celebrate!

Readers of *The Sword of the Lord* are earnestly urged to come to Dallas for the big Sunday afternoon service August 1st, celebrating the fifth anniversary of the existence of our church. Basket lunch will be served at the church at 1 P.M. We hope that many churches will be through with their services in time to come to the Fundamental Baptist Tabernacle and eat with us. Whether you bring your own lunch and spread with us or not, you are welcome, and there will be plenty of dinner for all. Christ often was a guest at special dinners prepared by His friends, more or less public dinners, and we know they can be used to sweeten the fellowship among Christians and for us to enjoy one another's fellowship in the Lord.

There will be plenty of ice water for everybody, and a fine program.

Following the dinner we are asking a number of our friends to speak, including Rev. W. O. Majors of Greenville, and Rev. Lloyd Adams of Fort Worth. There will be reports and greetings from other pastors and churches represented and then an ordination service. Rev. Leonard Barnes is to be set aside to the gospel ministry by the laying on of hands, God willing.

We look for many friends from far and near. Old members, who have now moved elsewhere, are especially invited to return for a happy visit. Let us pray that God will bless. Come, brothers and sisters in Christ, help us celebrate the blessings of God the last five years!

"You Ought To Charge \$1.00 a Year"

Last Saturday a preacher friend, a college and seminary man, with some experience in publishing a religious paper, said to this editor: "You ought to raise the price of your paper. You cannot make expenses at fifty cents a year, much less at the half price subscription rate. You ought to charge a dollar a year. People would appreciate it more. It is worth that price to publish such a paper and I believe you are making a mistake not to charge at least a dollar a year."

However, we are anxious to get out the gospel to the multiplied thousands who need it. So the regular price of *The Sword of the Lord* is less than actual cost of printing, fifty cents a year, or three years for \$1.00. And now, through July, we are making the unusual special offer of twenty-five cents a year in clubs of four or more, and thirty-five cents a year on single subscriptions so that thousands of our readers may subscribe for themselves, their relatives, preachers, missionaries, and friends at this remarkable rate.

My dear friends, I beg you to take advantage of this offer. We lose money on every subscription at this rate, but we rejoice in the privilege. God will help us pay

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

HEAR JOHN R. RICE, RADIO WRR, 7:30 A. M. SUNDAY

At 7:30 friends are invited to listen in on radio WRR each Sunday morning for the Gospel Half-Hour conducted by the editor. The Bible message on the second coming of Christ will be of interest to your friends.

IMPORTANT!!

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"He spake a parable unto them that men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

Luke 18:1.

"A PHYSICAL HELL OF LITERAL FIRE, WORMS"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

the printing bills and postage. For place. Now one reason it has to be a literal, physical place is that it is a place for physical bodies. You can't have an imaginary house for a couple of real flesh and blood people to keep house in. If you have an imaginary house you can have an imaginary couple of people to live in it, too. But a real couple of flesh and bone bodies must have real bread and meat to eat and a real bed to sleep on and real chairs to sit in and have to have real, physical surroundings for physical bodies. The Bible says bodies, too. Jesus said it is better to cut off your hand and enter into life with one hand, being maimed, than to enter into Hell having two hands. There are hands in Hell. Or, He said, "If thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire." And He said, "And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." The Bible says that Hell is a place where you will take your hands and feet and eyes. That isn't all. Jesus Himself expressly said, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matt. 10:28). And then in Matthew 5: 29, 30, He said, "And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend

thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell!"

Now I know the devil would have you think, "Oh, it is all right to serve God with the Spirit, but you are not supposed to with your body." There never was a bigger mistake. You say, "What does it matter about a habit of my body like beer or tobacco? It is the heart with which we serve God?" But the Lord says that your body is the thing. "Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost . . . therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit." I say with physical bodies. People eventually will go to Hell with their physical bodies and have both soul and body in Hell. The rich man died and went to Hell. At first he did not have his body in Hell for he was buried, and we know his body was in the grave. But later on, according to the Scripture, his body will be raised up out of the grave when death and Hell will give up the dead that are in them and then be cast into the lake of fire. A Hell for physical bodies would have to be a literal, physical place. In Revelation the nineteenth chapter and verse twenty, we are told how the false prophet and the Antichrist, two men, will be cast alive into the lake of fire. If they are cast alive, that would mean their soul and body literally will go to Hell, a literal lake of fire, for these two men will have literal bodies, and will be tormented in a literal Hell. Hell is a literal, physical place.

Hell is In the Heart of the Earth

That isn't all I know about Hell. I can tell you where Hell is. Hell is in the heart of the earth, down under us in the middle of the earth. There are so many Scriptures on it that I believe you will be perfectly convinced when I give you some of them.

In Philippians the second chapter, verse ten, the Scripture says: (this is the judgment now), "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven (that is one place), and things in earth (that is the second place), and things under the earth." Now then the Bible says there will be saints in Heaven at the judgment coming to bow the knee. The people on earth are going to come to bow the knee to Jesus, and people

will be brought out of Hell, under the earth, to bow the knee to Jesus. Hell is under the surface of the earth. Hell is under, in the middle of the earth, in the bowels of the earth. Hell is down in the middle of the earth. That Scripture teaches that Hell is in the middle or in the heart of the earth.

Here is another. In Revelation 9:1-3 the Bible tells how a star fell from heaven unto the earth: and to him (here is a person) "to him" and this person who will come down from Heaven to the earth, come down to the earth, "and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit." Now the bottomless pit is Hell, and the angel came down to earth to open the bottomless pit and when he had opened it there came out smoke from the lake of fire in the bottomless pit. The smoke came out from that when he opened it up into the surface of the earth, a hole in the earth. "And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power." These were called locusts because they were a fulfillment of the symbol, the plagues in Egypt. These locusts were literally demons.

What I am showing you is that when the devil came down and opened the bottomless pit, he had to come to the earth, and when the demons came out of the bottomless pit, they came out on the earth. Where is the bottomless pit then? The demons come out of the bottomless pit on the earth, and the bottomless pit is in the heart of the earth. And Hell itself, a terrible place of torment, is below us, away in the center of the earth!

Here is another one. In Isaiah 14:15 the Scripture says: "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit." Where is Hell? Hell is down. There are many other Scriptures that say this. In Luke 10:15 Jesus said: "And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted to heaven, shalt be thrust down to hell." "Down." Where is Hell? Hell is down. Here is another. II Pet. 2:4: "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment." Where is Hell? Everybody answer me.

Audience: "Hell is down."
Which direction is Hell?
Audience: "Down."

Hell is down. Down, that way (pointing down), down. Where is Hell? In the heart of the earth. Suppose you were in China on the other side of the earth, where would you point? You would point back down toward the heart of the earth. Which ever side of the earth you are on, you point toward the middle of the earth. Where is Hell? Hell is down. Hell is toward the middle of the earth. So it might be any direction, because the earth keeps going around and around. But when you point down you always point toward the heart of the earth. Where is Hell? Hell is down. It would have to be within the earth, then. Hell is in the earth. The rich man in Hell lifted up his eyes. Where did he look? He looked up. Where was he? He was down. The rich man in Hell had to look up to see Abraham. Hell is down.

Here is another thing I bring to your attention. Here is a thing I did not notice until some time ago just recently. One thing, in the Old Testament there was a place called the vale of Hinnom or sometimes called the vale of the son of Hinnom, mentioned I think, thirteen times in the old Testament. Then take the word Tophet. That was a certain place in that vale of Hinnom. It is mentioned several times. It is a valley outside Jerusalem, I believe southeast, and joins to the valley of Jehoshaphat close by where the battle of Armageddon will take place. The valley of Hinnom was a place where they offered human sacrifices. There they offered their children as sacrifices to Molech in the days of idolatry. It was a place of human sacrifices. God allowed in the Old Testament time that particular place to be a place of burning of human flesh. In the time of Christ

it was a place where they carried garbage and dead bodies, decaying meat, and there maggots ate on them, on decaying flesh and bodies, and fire burned all the time and never went out.

Here is an interesting thing, from the Old Testament into the New Testament, instead of that being a place out of the earth, in the New Testament the Greek word for it is Gehenna, and the Greek word Gehenna which means the vale of Hinnom, in the New Testament in every case is translated Hell. Now why? What can it mean? Does it mean that that place outside Jerusalem is Hell? "Well, it is a type of Hell," you say. But the Bible didn't say it was like Hell. The Bible just calls it Hell. That is where the rich man went and that is where both soul and body will be cast into Hell, as I read you in Mark, "Having two hands or two feet be cast into Hell fire." But that place out there is not just a type of Hell. It is Hell. Someone says, "What do you mean?"

I don't know all about it, but let me read you a little more. Come over to Revelation the nineteenth chapter and it tells about a great time when the man of sin will be on earth, the great, wicked Antichrist, who will raise an army against God, and then Jesus will come back from Heaven to earth and put him down. He is going to be taken alive and cast alive into Hell. Tell me, how will the Lord get that Man of sin down into the heart of the earth? There will have to be a hole in the earth, won't there? Where will it be? Wait a minute, let me read another Scripture. In Revelation the fourteenth chapter, let me read it word for word, and I will show you a startling thing about Hell. There has to be a hole so one can get down into the earth. Where will it be? Revelation, chapter nine, said that the devil will open a door where the demons will come out. Where will it be? The Scripture says in Revelation 14:10, 11, speaking of each one who rejects Christ, "And he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

"11. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." Now where is this Hell where their smoke ascends always out of

the heart of the earth, and where is this place that the holy angels of God can always go and look on and report what is going on in Hell? It will be "in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb," the Scripture says. I don't know all about it, but I think that place God called Gehenna, the vale of Hinnom outside Jerusalem is the place, and down there is Hell where the angels can observe. I didn't write that. Here is a literal, physical

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JOHN R. RICE, EDITOR, Pastor of Fundamental Baptist Church

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"A PHYSICAL HELL OF LITERAL FIRE, WORMS"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

place of torment and physical bodies down in the bowels of the earth.

Literal, Actual Fire in Hell

Will there be literal fire in Hell, sure enough fire like when you burn wood or burn paper? Will there be literal fire in Hell? That is exactly what the Bible teaches. The Bible teaches exactly that. There will be such literal fire in Hell, and I will read some of it here. You will hear it and believe it, I know. In the twentieth chapter of Revelation the Scripture tells us of the lake of fire that burneth with brimstone. That is what the Lord calls it.

Revelation 20:10 says:

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."

Verse 14 says:

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death."

And verse 15 says:

"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

Now that is what the Bible calls Hell, a lake of fire! You say, "Well, but I don't believe there is any fire there." But the Bible says it and that makes it so for us who believe the Bible, doesn't it? Hell is a lake of fire!

Here are some more. Luke 16: 24 says:

"And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame."

Is there fire in Hell? The rich man in Hell says there is! "There is fire down here," he said. "I am tormented in this flame!" There is literal fire in Hell. Turn to Matthew 5:22 and Jesus Himself is talking now and He said:

"Whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."

There is fire in Hell and the expression *Hell fire* first came from the mouth of Jesus Himself. In Hell there is fire and anybody who says, "Thou fool!" is in danger of Hell fire. Yes, sir, there is fire in Hell. Look again at Isaiah 66:24. The man of sin will be put to death. His battle will all be lost and the people all be killed. Listen now:

"And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."

Now there is fire in Hell. Their worm shall not die and their fire shall not be quenched.

Here is another, II Thessalonians 1:7-9. "And to you who are troubled rest with us" (are you troubled? Things don't turn out right? Sin doesn't get punished you think? Listen): "And to you who are troubled rest with us, (knowing God will do it right, knowing God will bring judgment) when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels. In flaming fire (there is going to be fire in Hell) taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."

"In flaming fire," there is going to be fire in Hell. "In flaming fire," "tormented in this flame," "the smoke of their torment," the Hell the Bible is talking about has fire, flaming fire, tormented in flame, smoke ascending all the

time, sulphur burning. It is a literal lake of fire. Yes, it has sulphur in it, literal sulphur or brimstone. Literal fire, literal sulphur, literal worms, literal torment, literal bodies in Hell!

Here is another, Matthew the thirteenth chapter, Jesus told the story, and said: "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity: And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 13:41, 42). That is what the Bible says that the angels are going to do with lost people when Jesus comes back to this world to reign. They will gather all the lost people and cast them into a furnace of fire. Where is that? That will be in Hell. "And there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

In Matthew, chapter twenty-five, the Scripture says Jesus will come back and separate the nations as a shepherd divides the sheep and the goats, and verse 41 says, "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." There is real fire in Hell, isn't there? In Matthew eighteen, verses eight and nine, Jesus said: "Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire."

And then in Jude, now listen, is this: "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" (Jude 7).

Now, my friends, I am not just come to make a fact clear to you. I don't think you will ever forget it, however. I hope nobody will. I hope you do not. I hope you have taken down the Scriptures, and that you take them literally. There are enough cases that show beyond a doubt that there is a literal place called Hell, a place of real torment where people go who reject Christ. I hope you will remember that it is down, that it is a place of fire, of flaming fire, of vengeance of fire, and that the smoke of their torment ascends up forever and ever, being tormented in fire and brimstone in the presence of the Lamb, that it is a real lake of fire, a real bottomless pit in the heart of a real earth, and that physical bodies having two hands, having two eyes and two feet, will be cast into it. Both soul and body will be cast into Hell. I want you to remember that, but I want you to get more than just the facts.

I remind you of the awful wrath of God and that men must face it. Why is there fire in Hell? The reason there is fire, is because people are so insatiably wicked, so turned against God, that God is angry and must punish sin. Sin must be punished. Every time a lamb was brought in the Old Testament for sacrifices, and they burned that on the altar, it was a picture that God brings judgment on sin. That sacrifice pictured the death of Christ on the cross and pictured also that sinners must die. The soul that sinneth must die. God must bring judgment on sin by fire. "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them," the Scripture said. God must meet sin, God must punish sin, and God's way of punishing sin, the symbol of the wrath of God is fire. Doesn't the Bible say, "Our God is a consuming fire?" A lot of people like to quote, "God is love," and He is, praise His name, and I preached this afternoon on love in Fort Worth where twenty-two preachers were present and a thirteen year old girl was saved and people got grudges out of their hearts. I believe in love and I preach on love. We ought to preach all that is in the Book. God is love, but our God is also a consuming fire, the

Bible said. God hates sin, and sin must be punished, and sin will be punished.

You remember in the Bible when two men, Nadab and Abihu came into the temple to offer sacrifices, and instead of bringing holy fire, they got some from the campfire and brought it in there, and the Bible says fire came out from the altar and devoured them there. God's wrath there is a type of the fire of God in Hell, the wrath of God on sin.

Sodom and Gomorrah went on in sin so long—how wicked they were! They were guilty of such lust, lewdness, and every kind of sin, adultery and idolatry—until God said, "I have got to destroy them," and He rained fire and brimstone from God out of Heaven on those cities. Why fire and brimstone? I will tell you why. God wanted it to be a picture of Hell, and that is what there is going to be in Hell. Literal fire fell on Sodom and Gomorrah.

Scientists have gone over there and looked on the hillside around the Dead Sea and found remains and the graves used to bury the dead of Sodom and Gomorrah. The remains of those two cities are under the waters of the Dead Sea. Now here is a startling thing. On the rocks all about there are traces of sulphur and the rocks have been burned with fire! Literal fire, literal sulphur burned them there and destroyed them. Why? It is an example of what Hell is like, for that is what the Scripture said, "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." Set forth as an example. God said, "I am doing this for an example, an example of the vengeance of eternal fire." This was not just ordinary fire, but the fire of an eternal Hell with eternal torment of fire in Hell. "I have set these forth as examples," God said. The fire from Heaven was just an example of what Hell is like. The eternal torment of people in Hell is like that. That is the reason God sent literal fire and literal brimstone. As real fire destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, the same kind of fire is in Hell.

As real sulphur and fire fell on Sodom and Gomorrah, the same kind of sulphur is burning in Hell. That is easy to believe if you take the Bible at face value. That is what the Bible says. These "are set forth as an example suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." In flaming fire taking vengeance on them." What is Hell? The fire burning is a sample that Hell is the vengeance of an angry God.

But in the goodness of God's mercy, how He woos us, and pleads with us! I have said before, no sweetheart ever did his best to win his girl and brought candy and flowers and showered them on the girl of his choice trying to win her like God in His loving kindness woos the sinner! No mother ever played with her child and taught it every lisping word, laughed at every antic, kissed every dimple and every hurt, no mother ever did that for her child with the love that God sheds on sinners. No wonder we are told

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



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"A PHYSICAL HELL OF LITERAL FIRE, WORMS"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

in Romans 2:4 that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance! God woos us through His mercy. Oh, the unrequited love that God pours out! He calls and we refuse. He prunes the tree and yet it won't bring forth fruit. The Holy Spirit knocks at the door of your heart and you drive Him away. You trample under foot His blood and count the blood of the Son of God with which He was sanctified an unholy thing. "Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?" (Heb. 10:29). Oh, sinner, you will meet God, an angry God, one of these days. There is an old saying, "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned." A woman's love is a very tender thing. Every man who has a good wife may thank God. There are a few things that cannot be bought. True love cannot. A true wife's love cannot, yet my friend... sometimes can't understand all about it—but if a woman ever gives a man her love with all her heart and that man scorns it and plays with her, and that man then does not love her, does not take her after she has given all her heart, that love will likely turn to bitterest hatred. "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned," the old saying is, but, my friend, wait. What about a God scorned who gave His Son to die for you, and sent His Spirit to plead with you, and sent preachers to warn you and gave a mother to teach you, and you wouldn't heed her teaching, and gave you a wife to pray for you and you did not care about her praying. One of these days you are going to meet an angry God whose Son you have trodden under your feet and done despite and insult to the Spirit of grace. Now, of how much sorer punishment will you be thought worthy than the man who sinned under Old Testament law? It is a terrible thing to meet an angry God! It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God! You will, sinner, and in Hell your sin will catch up with you! God's vengeance will be brought against you, God's wrath against sin. Your sin will find you out. Go ahead and flaunt Him and turn Him down. God will call a

day of vengeance. That is the reason there is literal fire, literal torment in Hell. You must meet an angry God.

"In a day that is not far
At the flaming Judgment Bar—
Even now the awful summons I can hear—
I shall meet the mighty God,
I shall face His holy Word,
I shall stand before the Judgment Bar!"

My friends, one of these days you are going to meet an angry God! Go ahead and turn down Christ! You won't listen when someone preaches to you! You will break your neck going out that door because you are afraid someone will talk to you. Go ahead, but I remind you as certain as there is a God, you will meet the fire of the wrath of God in torment in Hell one of these days if you go on without Christ!

There is a Hell, a physical place for physical bodies. In Hell there is literal fire. It is the wrath of God against sin. That is going to be eternal in Hell. God has been so insulted by your sin, so offended, been so grieved, God has been so mistreated, God has been so outraged by your insatiable wickedness and your continual violence against God, your wicked rejection of Jesus Christ, God has been so insulted about that that through the eternal ages, God said the people in Hell would be tormented day and night in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb.

(Continued next issue)

"When I cannot understand my Father's leading,
And it seems to be but hard and cruel fate,
Still I hear the gentle whisper ever pleading,
God is working, God is faithful,
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